



May — June 2006

State, FEMA begin storm recovery work

Local, state, tribal and non-profit agencies are expected to make more than 60 requests for public assistance in the Winter Storms 2006 Disaster that affects 11 counties in Washington.

The disaster, which was declared May 17 by President Bush, covers winter storm damage between Jan. 27 and Feb. 4 in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific, Pend Oreille, San Juan, Snohomish and Wahkiakum counties.

Gov. Chris Gregoire said the declaration "will help our counties and cities repair damages to critical public facilities and pay for emergency work, such as debris removal. The cost of recovering from these storms is especially burdensome in rural counties with limited budgets and resources. The federal aid will be vital to these counties."

Acting Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Director R. David Paulison said the federal aid is available on a cost-sharing basis



First responders prepare simulated casualties for screening by emergency personnel at an Everett field site May 23 as part of the Evergreen Sentry exercise. The anti-terrorism exercise involved the city of Everett; the counties of Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom; the port of Tacoma and members of the Washington and Idaho National Guard. See story on page 6. (WMD photo by Sgt. Dan Purcell)

Gov. Gregoire announces new state emergency management grants

Gov. Chris Gregoire today announced the award of the state's first Emergency Management Preparedness Assistance Grants. The grants, which total \$1.6 million, are awarded to 30 individual organizations, agencies, and tribes.

"These grants represent state investments in community-based programs that protect our citizens and prepare for emergencies by educating our first responders and all Washingtonians," said Governor Gregoire.

"We hope citizens and legislators will see the value and importance of these targeted public safety investments when future budget appropriations are considered," said Maj. Gen. Timothy J. Lowenberg, director of the Washington Military Department. "We will provide a summary of the program in an interim report that will be filed early in the 2007 legislative session."

The Fiscal Year 2007 state budget authorized the competitive grant program for high impact, short term projects. Eligible projects included the training of public officials: development of

Governor announces award of new state EM grants

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comprehensive emergency management plans; administration of joint exercises; and projects that strengthen emergency response, mitigation, preparedness and coordination.

Grants were available to local governments, tribal governments, regional agencies, regional incident management teams and private organizations. Eighty-nine grant applicants made requests totaling \$8.4 million. Representatives of state agencies, academic institutions and emergency management agencies helped the state Emergency Management Division to review and rank the applications.

These funds are available for one year only, and applicants will have approximately ten months to accomplish projects.

Additional information on the Emergency Management Preparedness Assistance Grants will be available on the EMD website at www.emd.wa.gov. The following is a list of 2006 grant awards:

American Red Cross – Mt. Baker Chapter, \$64,000
American Red Cross Serving King and Kitsap counties, \$99,300
Camano Island Fire and Rescue, \$27,381
Chelan County Sheriff's Office, Department of Emergency Management, \$51,173
City of Kent Emergency Management, \$95,300
City of Orting, \$90,000
City of Shoreline, \$56,531
City of Tacoma Fire Department, \$86,752
Clallam County Public Utility District No. 1, \$90,788
Columbia County Emergency Management, \$15,500
Ferry County Commissioners, \$25,000
Grand Coulee Volunteer Fire Department, \$3,810
Grant County Department of Emergency Management, \$42,627
Grays Harbor County Emergency Management, \$52,300
Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management, \$16,700
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, \$68,536
Lummi Nation, \$94,200
Nooksack Indian Tribe, \$55,143
Oak Harbor Department of Emergency Services, \$26,540
San Juan County Department of Emergency Management, \$44,124
San Juan County Public Works Department, \$24,319
Seattle University, \$19,984
Skagit County Public Utility District No. 1, \$58,000
Skamania County Department of Emergency Management, \$19,374
Snohomish County Parks Department and Evergreen State Fairgrounds, \$68,502
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, \$40,598
Thurston County Emergency Management, \$100,000
Town of Steilacoom, \$32,900
Walla Walla County Emergency Management, \$15,215
Yakima County Office of Emergency Management, \$115,403

State, FEMA begin storm disaster recovery work

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for emergency work and repair or replacement of facilities damaged by severe storms, flooding, tidal surge, landslides and mudslides. The disaster declaration also made all counties in the state eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

A preliminary damage survey by joint state-federal teams in late February found an estimated \$7 million in public infrastructure damages. The most severe impacts in western Washington were to the public transportation systems, ports, water supply systems and local electric and sewer utilities.

Damages in eastern Washington were most extensive to public utility infrastructure and emergency communications systems in Pend Oreille County due to a combination of heavy snow, ice and high wind.

A joint field office opened May 25 in Tumwater, and a federal-state



John Pennington, left, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region 10 director, and Gov. Chris Gregoire, right, sign the State-Federal Agreement for the Winter Storms 2006 Disaster in the Governor's Conference Room on June 8. (FEMA Photo by Jennifer Carver)

agreement was signed June 8 by Gov. Gregoire and John Pennington, director, FEMA Region 10. Lee Champagne was appointed as Federal Coordinating Officer from the Region 10 office. Kurt Hardin, manager of the Emergency Management Division's Mitigation, Response and Recovery unit, was named the state coordinating officer.

Disaster public assistance staff had conducted applicant briefings with all 11 counties by the end of May and had completed 54 kickoff meetings by June 27.

"The goal is to try to work as quickly and efficiently as possible to get public infrastructure repairs underway," said Hardin, adding that he hoped that joint field office operations could end by July 31.

Governor appoints Steve Bailey to state EM council

Steve Bailey, director, Pierce County Department of Emergency Management, has been appointed to the State Emergency Management Council by Gov. Chris Gregoire. His term

began March 1 and ends at the pleasure of the governor.

The council advises the governor and director of the Washington Military Department on all matters relating to

state and local emergency management and provides the governor with an annual assessment of statewide preparedness for all types of hazards.

State allocated \$32 million in FY 2006 HLS grant funds

Federal homeland security funding allocated to Washington in Fiscal Year 2006 (FFY06) will total \$32.2 million, according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) awards announced May 31.

The state's FFY 06 allocation represented a drop of \$9.6 million from Fiscal Year 2005 and \$28.2 million from Fiscal Year 2004.

Gov. Chris Gregoire criticized the reductions in a June 2 letter to DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff.

"Homeland security funding from the federal government is spiraling downward at an unacceptable pace," she said. "The reductions give us no confidence that this Administration is fully committed to our security."

Arel Solie, supervisor of the Emergency Management Division's homeland security section, said EMD would meet with representatives of local jurisdictions, state agencies and tribes to determine how to match the federal award with homeland security grant requests. Specific grant awards will be announced by fall, she said.

The following is a breakdown of the state's Fiscal Year 2006 homeland security grant allocation:

Homeland Security Program

The state received a grant allocation of \$12.7 million, compared to \$21.2 million in the previous year. This was a nationwide competitive grant with most of the funds allocated on the basis of risk and the effectiveness of the grant application.

The state of Washington was among the top 25 per cent of all states and territories in the risk analysis assessments. The investment justification was rated as excellent for relevance to national preparedness goals, connection to the enhancement plan, and feasibility and reasonableness. The justification received ratings of above average for complete picture and innovativeness.

Two investment justifications were rated as exceptional and were placed in the top 15 per cent of all investment justification submissions. These justifications were in the areas of building regional interoperable communications capabilities and for the enhancement of responder teams to operate in a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high explosive environment.

One justification, titled "Medical and Health Laboratory Capacity Enhancements," scored in the bottom 15 per cent and will need to be updated based on peer review comments prior to any drawdown funds against this investment.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program

The award was \$9.2 million, compared to \$7.7 million in Federal Fiscal Year 2005. This was a nationwide competitive grant. Awards were largely based on risk and effectiveness of grant application.

Citizen Corps Program

The award was \$384,998 compared to \$269,275 in Federal Fiscal Year 2005. It was a pre-determined grant award designated by DHS.

Metropolitan Medical Response System

The award was \$696,990, compared to \$682,776 in Federal Fiscal Year 2005. It was a pre-determined grant award designated by DHS.

Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)

The award was \$9.1 million, compared to \$11.9 million in Federal Fiscal Year 2005. The urban area of Seattle and Bellevue and the counties of King, Snohomish and Pierce counties was among the selected urban areas allowed to apply for this grant. Risk and effectiveness of application determined the allocations. The Seattle UASI area was among the bottom 50 per cent of all urban areas based on DHS' comparative risk analysis. The Seattle UASI investment justification received marks of excellent for relevance to national preparedness goal implementation, connection to enhancement plan, and complete picture. The justification was ranked as above average for innovativeness and feasibility and reasonableness.

FEMA director to Snohomish

John Pennington, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 10 director since 2001, will become the director of the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management July 13.

He was nominated for the post June 7 by Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. Pennington will serve as acting county director until his appointment is confirmed by the Snohomish County Council.

As Region 10 FEMA director, Pennington oversaw federal disaster readiness and response programs in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska. He also served as federal coordinating officer for three emergency declarations in Washington, Idaho and Oregon that handled evacuees from Hurricane Katrina.

Pennington became regional director after serving four terms as a Republican state representative from Cowlitz County.

In Snohomish County, he will head a department of emergency management that was merged with county government last Jan. 1. After the merger, director Roger Serra and two other long-time employees resigned.

Dennis Hunsinger, deputy regional FEMA director, was named as interim regional FEMA director to replace Pennington.



Jerry Jenson, right, Emergency Management Division's state exercise program manager, works with other state and federal representatives in the controller cell for the Pacific Peril tsunami exercise held at Oregon's Camp Rilea in May. Exercise participants included federal agencies as well as the states of Washington and Oregon and the Province of British Columbia. (EMD Photo)

State, BC sign regional agreement

Washington State and the Province of British Columbia signed a new agreement June 20 to provide for the coordination of resources and support during emergencies. The agreement was signed in Vancouver, B.C. by Gov. Chris Gregoire and B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell.

The agreement updated the Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement (PNEMA) which was first signed in 1996 by Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and the premiers of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory.

Washington and British Columbia are the first two signatories to the new agreement, which is titled PNEMA Annex B.

The signing of Annex B reflects the ongoing commitment of provincial and state emergency management officials to share information and resources in response to events like the cross-border wildfires of 2003. It recognizes that B.C. and Washington share natural hazard concerns such as wildfires, major earthquakes and flood and drought issues related to cross-border rivers. It also recognizes that the province and the state share infrastructure vulnerabilities such as power grids, natural gas pipelines and transportation corridors.



Operations staff (l-r) James Yates, Bob Isaman and Paul McNeil check a situation report during the Evergreen Sentry exercise last May in the state Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray. (EMD Photo by Rob Harper)

Terrorism exercise tests agencies

By SGT Dan Purcell
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
Washington - Vigilant and ready – those were the hallmarks of exercise Evergreen Sentry 06 (ES06) – a collaborative effort of the Washington Military Department and local first responders. The capstone event of ES06 occurred on the morning of May 23, 2006 when over 200 Soldiers and Airmen of the Washington and Idaho National Guard teamed up with first responders from the City of Everett and Snohomish County, Washington to treat the victims of a simulated terrorist attack.

The event was part of a full-scale homeland security operation that provided local, state

and federal emergency personnel an opportunity to hone their interagency communication and emergency response skills. In addition to the Snohomish County incident, other exercise events occurred in Skagit and Whatcom counties, as well as an anti-terrorism drill conducted at the Port of Tacoma. The three day series of exercises culminated late Thursday evening following a week of concentrated field work by the Washington National Guard.

According to MAJ Phil Osterli, spokesman for the Washington National Guard, this is the first exercise in the nation to be built upon the specific training objectives of federal,

state and local first responders. "As for the future this is the first in a series of exercises to be conducted annually. The success of this exercise sets the stage for follow-on planning and training," Osterli added.

"These exercises help identify gaps in our planning and communications that never would be revealed without them," said Maj. Gen. Tim Lowenberg, commander of the Washington National Guard. "Snohomish, Whatcom, Skagit and Island Counties and their leaders have earned an A+ for the initiative they've shown in being prepared for their citizens," Lowenberg stated at the Everett incident site.

This exercise also inaugurated the first full scale deployment of the Joint Task Force Washington (JTF-WA) – a composite organization specifically designed to provide command and control of state military assets in order to meet Homeland Security challenges. The JTF-WA was led by Brigadier General James Kelly, Commander of the 66th Aviation Brigade at Fort Lewis. BG Kelly is the first Washington National Guard general officer to complete the Joint Task Force Commander's Course, which certifies him to exercise command and control over active federal and other state National Guard forces, should a Homeland Defense situation dictate.

Other WA NG units supporting the exercise included the 10th Civil Support Team (CST), 420th Chemical Battalion,

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UMCD reaches key milestones

In early June, the Umatilla Chemical Depot reached several cleanup milestones, including the destruction of the last GB (Sarin) bombs at the depot and in the nation.

The depot also:

- recorded shipment No. 3,000 from its chemical weapons storage area to the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility for processing.
- completed agent trial burns for the last of the disposal facility's four furnaces.

The final 750-pound bomb, containing 220 pounds of liquid sarin nerve agent, was destroyed June 9.

This act completed the destruction of the depot's 2,400 liquid nerve agent bombs and marked the elimination of the last of the nation's 13,500 GB-filled bombs. The last of the depot's 500-pound sarin bombs were safely destroyed on May 18.

Wildfire season now underway

A Grant County wildfire June 29 was the first fire of 2006 to qualify for State Fire Services Resources Mobilization. The Rocky Ford Creek fire began about 2:30 p.m. June 28 and burned about 3,300 acres before it was contained. The fire destroyed one resident and threatened several homes, power lines and substation, and a fish hatchery.

Agencies tested in May exercise

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1161st Transportation Company, 248th Rear Area Operations Command, 141st Air Medical Detachment (Washington Air National Guard), and the Interim SATCOM Incident Site Command Set (ISISCS) – an Air Guard communications package that enhances interoperability between first responders. Additionally, the 101st CST from the Idaho National Guard (ID NG) participated in joint operations with its Washington counterpart throughout the three day exercise.

The exercise scenario included the detonation of a radiological dispersion device (RDD) – more commonly referred to as a 'dirty bomb'. The 10th Civil Support Team (WA NG) was called in and with the help of the 101st CST (ID NG) assisted the local incident commander in identifying the type and scope of the contamination.

Victims from the initial blast were brought to the exercise site. Upon their arrival, they were processed through a mass decontamination and medical triage center. The center is part of an enhanced Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P).

The purpose of the CERF-P is to provide follow-on support to civil and military authorities and to help save lives and prevent human suffering.

"We've been training up for this for awhile, specifically the last two weeks just to make sure we could do this and finish up our training," said Specialist Brian Hahne, a member of the CERF-P from Ephrata, WA.

The CERF-P Commander, COL (P) Jeff Mathis III, noted that part of their mission was to show local authorities the interoperability features of their decontamination site.

"We are fully mission-capable right now. We can run between 60 and 100 casualties per hour through our site," said Mathis. "What really determines the numbers is the severity of the injuries. This is a fairly seamless operation and a great testimony to the Soldiers and Airmen who have been training for this."

State, B.C. sign health agreement

Washington and British Columbia agreed to address public health emergencies in a memorandum of understanding signed June 20 by Gov. Chris Gregoire and B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell. Under the memorandum, the state and province agree to

undertake a collaborative approach to use available health resources to prepare for, respond to and recover from public health emergencies. The memorandum provides a framework for future collaboration, including mutual assistance in a public health emergency.

Reports show steady progress on NIMS compliance

Progress reports from state, county, city and tribal agencies shows Washington jurisdictions are making steady progress towards meeting this year's National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements.

That is the assessment of Jim Kadrmas, Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD)'s NIMS compliance coordinator, based on quarterly reports from 290 jurisdictions for a May 30 reporting deadline.

He said an initial review showed a high percentage of compliance with such requirements as the formal adoption of NIMS, the use of the incident command system and multi-agency coordination systems. Jurisdictions generally reported the lowest compliance with the requirements for completion of introductory and incident command courses.

Kadrmas, who early on established a system that would enable the state to measure state wide compliance and facilitate reporting, developed a team of subject matter experts that toured the state for the purpose of educating organizations on NIMS implementation requirements. He also chairs Washington State's NIMS Interagency Coordinating Group designed to facilitate NIMS coordination efforts between state, local and tribal organizations. Kadrmas noted that the May reports were submitted through a new electronic online NIMS reporting system. The report forms are located through the "Submit NIMS Report" button at the top of the EMD homepage website at <http://emd.wa.gov>. Through this system all organizations will once again be required to submit their final federal Fiscal Year 2006 (FFY06) compliance reports by Sept. 30, 2006.

Information from the quarterly reports is compiled by EMD for review by Gov. Chris Gregoire and Maj. Gen. Timothy J. Lowenberg, director, Washington Military Department. Washington State must certify this fall to the Department of Homeland Security that the entire state has met FFY06 NIMS requirements in order for the state to be eligible for Fiscal Year 2007 and beyond federal preparedness assistance funds.

The state, local and tribal level requirements for FFY 06 are:

- Formally adopt NIMS
- USE ICS
- Use Multi Agency Coordination Systems
- Use Public Information Systems
- Establish your NIMS Baseline
- Coordination federal preparedness funding to support NIMS
- Revise and update SOP's to incorporate NIMS
- Participate in and promote mutual aid
- Complete the IS-700, 800, 100 and 200 courses
- Incorporate NIMS into training and exercises.
- Participate in all-hazards, multi-jurisdictional/discipline exercises based on NIMS
- Incorporate corrective action into response plans and procedures.
- Inventory response assets to conform to resource typing standards.
- Incorporate national standards into equipment acquisition programs.
- Apply standard terminology across the public safety sector.

Additional state level requirement for FFY 2006 are:

- Formally adopt NIMS
- Monitor formal adoption at the local and tribal level.

Agencies sign aviation alert memorandum

Camp Murray's state Alert and Warning Center will receive all initial aviation related emergency calls under an agreement signed June 27 between the Washington Department of Transportation – Aviation (DOT Aviation) and the Emergency Management Division of the Washington Military Department.

The center which is staffed 24 hours a day by state emergency operations officers already handles response calls for the state departments of Health and Ecology and the off-hours calls for the state Department of Natural Resources.

WSDOT Aviation, which currently receives about 300 emergency locator transmitters notifications each year, will continue to have the overall responsibility for launching air searches.



Jim Mullen, left, director, Emergency Management Division of the Washington Military Department, and Jim Sibold, right, director, Aviation Division of the Washington Department of Transportation, discuss the new aviation incident alert and notification memorandum at a June 27 signing ceremony in EMD's Camp Murray headquarters. (EMD Photo by Rob Harper)

EMD's state emergency operations officers will receive and screen emergency contacts before forwarding them to WSDOT—Aviation. This initial reception and screening of contacts "will aid in reducing the number of false or non-distress calls" to the WSDOT Aviation,

according to Kurt Hardin, Response Unit manager

EMD will benefit from the increased effectiveness, consistency and efficiency of emergency operations, including search and rescue missions, he added.

Reports show steady progress on NIMS compliance

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- Communicate NIMS requirements across the state.
- Measure NIMS implementation progress across the state.
- Facilitate state wide compliance reporting.
- Designate a single point of contact.
- Ensure federal preparedness funding is linked to satisfactory implementation progress.
- Verify NIMS implementation compliance associated with federal grant funds.
- Leverage training facilities to coordinate and deliver NIMS.
- Develop state plans for the receipt and distribution of resources.



Members of the Benton County Fire District No. 6 in Paterson set up an emergency treatment center as part of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program Exercise June 6. The exercise involved first responders and emergency workers and volunteers from the states of Oregon and Washington; Umatilla and Morrow counties in Oregon; Benton County in Washington; and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. (Benton County photo)

Hardin receives APCO's Maurice Courtright award

Kurt Hardin, Unit Manager for Mitigation, Response and Recovery Unit of the Washington Emergency Management Division, is the most recent recipient of the Washington Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, International Maurice Courtright Award.

Hardin has served as APCO Chapter Treasurer since 2001. He was presented with this award at the APCO 2006 Summer Training Conference Awards Banquet Thursday, June 22 in Wenatchee.

This award is not about deeds, or numbers, or accomplishments, nor has it anything to do with financial successes, or chairmanships. The award does speak volumes about the inspiration behind those deeds, numbers, accomplishments and successes of that person's associates.

Hardin's enthusiasm and his ability to make decisions that benefit everyone, whether in his daily work or in serving the membership of the chapter was cited as the reason for this recognition. He was described as a workaholic and a watchdog -- keeping everyone within the boundaries of the rules and regulations set out by the Board. Hardin is the one everyone turns to when the 'legality' of an idea needs to be tested before being put into practice. His dedication and personal sacrifices contributed to the Chapter's success and rewards since his involvement in Sept. 2000.

Created in 1975 by the widow of Maurice Courtright, the award is considered the most prestigious of the Chapter. It is not given annually; in fact, it has only been given twice in the past six years.

Emergency Management staff appointments, awards

Mark Kogle, plans review coordinator in the Planning, Analysis and logistics section of the Planning, Exercise and Training Unit, retired June 28 after 10 years of state service. Kogle, a retired U.S. Army officer, joined EMD's Public Assistance Program in 1997 where he worked in the recovery programs for the 1996 and 1997 winter storms. Transferring to the planning section in 1998, he played a principal role in the development of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Guide and the Emergency Repatriation Plan. Kogle served as a coordinator for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact program which dispatched 89 emergency workers from the state in 2005 to assist hurricane recovery work on the Gulf Coast.

Steve Williams, was appointed as Tri-Cities Program Manager June 5 to replace **Fred Klauss**, who retired May 30 after three years with EMD. Before joining EMD, Klauss had worked 25 years with Energy Northwest and its predecessor agency, the Washington Public Power Supply System. Williams has worked eight years with Franklin County Emergency Management and has considerable knowledge of the fixed facility programs on the Hanford Site. Klauss was presented a Certificate of Appreciation June 29. The certificate stated Klauss' work had "improved the level of preparedness for emer-

gency responders and gained for you, and EMD, recognition for innovation and dedication to improving the readiness of all communities in and around the Tri-Cities area."

Victoria Padron left EMD June 23 to accept a position with the Washington Military Department's Counterdrug Task Force. She had been secretary administrative in the Planning, Exercise and Training Unit since July 2005.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented May 25 to EMD support staff members for their willingness to cover reception duties on an hourly schedule between Dec. 29, 2005, and May 25, 2005, to help the agency maintain normal day to day operations. Award recipients were **Sidse Nielsen, Christine Dill, Chris Moores, Sonya Carrasquillo, Venetia Mitchell, Dalton Gamboa, Michelle Vann, Victoria Padron, Robin Dildine-Gwin, and Kristin Ramos.**

Arel Solie, homeland security section manager, received a Certificate of Appreciation May 25 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for her work in the Fiscal Year 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program peer review process. As part of a part of state-local work group, Solie spent about 100 hours to evaluate 90 local and state investment justifications for Fiscal Year 2006 DHS grants. She worked another

five days with state and local subject matter experts to review the investment justification scores.

Chris Moores, secretary senior in the Mitigation, Response and Recovery Unit, was awarded her 15-year state service award on May 25. She came to EMD in 1999 and has worked in the Policy, Programs and Training Unit and in a state project position.

Dick Kay, a civil engineer in the Recovery Field Office in Olympia, received his 10-year state service award on May 25. He has worked in the Public Assistance Program in nine disasters, helping agencies to repair damaged public facilities.

Jill Nordstrom, an emergency management specialist with the Public Assistance Program in the Olympia Recovery Field Office, was presented her five-year state service award on May 25. Prior to her work with the public assistance program, she worked with the Planning, Analysis and Logistics section of the Planning, Exercise and Training Unit.

Paul McNeil, emergency operations center EOC manager, received his five-year state service award on May 25. Starting as a coordinator in the Nisqually Earthquake public assistance program, McNeil was selected as the assistant emergency operations center in 2003 and as EOC manager in 2004.

Kyle Herman, who came to EMD in 2004 as a secretary sen-

In Memoriam: Allan B. Josue



Allan B. Josue, EMD telecommunications planner and 15-year state employee, died June 11 in Hawaii.

A retired U.S. Army Signal Corps officer, Josue was considered the agency expert in telecommunications systems and equipment and helped EMD keep pace with the many communications innovations introduced to emergency managers over the past decade.

Josue was widely known in the agency for his devotion to Seattle Mariners baseball. He also was an organizer of social events within EMD, spearheading both the agency's holiday gift exchange lunch and the agency's annual State Employee Night at Safeco Field, complete with drawings for team merchandise.

"Allan was a very close friend and valuable employee for 15 years and will be dearly missed," said Don Miller, EMD telecommunications supervisor.

EMD staff awards, promotions

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ior in the Preparedness Unit, was named June 27 to a permanent position as an Emergency Management Program Specialist 1 in the Homeland Security Section of the Programs Unit, which he joined in 2005.

Lu An Johnson received a letter of commendation from the Madigan Army Medical Center for her work in providing disaster preparedness materials for the more than 400 persons who attended the Madigan Disaster Preparedness Fair held April 11.

Phil Ayles will become a state emergency operations officer

July 1. He has worked as an intern with the exercise and training section of EMD's Planning, Exercise and Training Unit. A retired member of the U. S. Army, Ayles served in Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan.

John Vollmer, human services manager in EMD's Mitigation, Response and Recovery Unit, has received a 15-year state service award. Vollmer joined the state Military Department in 1991 and came to EMD in 1993 as a public educator. He has been human services manager since 2000, coordinating individual assistance programs in four federal disasters.

EMD Director Jim Mullen said that Allan Josue's "good humor and diligence always eased the tension" of any emergency management activation or exercise. "It seemed as if he was always there when we needed him. He always did his duty."

Mullen added the agency will seek an appropriate opportunity to honor Josue's personal and professional contributions to EMD.

Josue, 58, is survived by his wife, Nancy, and daughters, Kim, and Adrienne, mother, Victoria, sisters Eileen Boerger (Wally) and Vivien Josue Germandt, niece Katie Boerger and numerous friends. Services with military honors were held June 21 at Mountain View Valley Chapel and Cemetery in Lakewood.



Emergency Responder

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**Major General
Timothy J. Lowenberg
The Adjutant General**

Jim Mullen, Director

Rob Harper, Mark Clemens, Penelope Cassidy, Editors

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The Washington Emergency Management Division, including the State Emergency Operations Center, is located in Building 20 on Camp Murray, located at exit 122 on Interstate 5 south of Tacoma, Washington.